Chapter 19
兄友
あにとも

IN THE LAST CHAPTER,
THAT MEANS,
THE PERSON NISHINO-KUN IS DATING ISN'T YUKIHIRO, BUT MAI...
WE FOUND OUT THAT MY PARENTS HAD A HUGE MISUNDER-STANDING.

Hello, it's Akagawara Hodoma.
Thank you for purchasing volume 4.
Anitome has already reached its fourth volume -
the first of my series to come this far.
This is due to all your support - thank you so much!
I did not expect this work to go past the
first chapter - or become a serialization.
I felt surprised and happy at the same time.
But, if you were to read this in your free time
and chuckle a bit, it will bring most happiness.

MAI, BRING ME THE WASABI.
WASABI?! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THE WASABI?!
Dad

NO, WAIT! I QUESTIONED IT AT FIRST!
I DID, TOO.
BUT, YUKIHIRO, YOU HARDLY BRING ANY FRIENDS OVER,
SO I THOUGHT, "AHH, HE ISN'T JUST A FRIEND..." AND I WAS STRANGELY ACCEPTING OF IT.
MAI, HEAT THE WASABI IN A WATER BATH.
A WATER BATH?! YOU'RE GOING TO MELT IT?! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THAT?!

I'll allow it.
All right!
I WAS EVEN MOVED WHEN HE APPROVED OF OUR RELATIONSHIP...
THAT SAID, I'M SHOCKED AT HOW EASILY YOU ACCEPTED THAT...
He's your first-born son.
HMM... THAT'S TRUE
I DID HESITATE ABOUT IT AT FIRST;
BUT I THOUGHT, "I'LL ACCEPT HIM JUST THE WAY HE IS."
MAI, BRING ME A STRAW.
I'M GONNA SHOVE IT UP HIS NOSE.
YOU'RE NOT HUMAN!
Dad
HOW COULD YOU THINK OF SOMETHING LIKE THIS?! YOU'RE TERRIFYING! I DON'T EVER RECALL RAISING A CHILD LIKE THIS!
ME TOO; I DON'T EVER RECALL BEING RAISED BY A PIECE OF SHIT
AT LEAST CALL ME A SHITTY PARENT!
NO, PLEASE, WAIT!
DAD IS SORRY FOR MISUNDERSTANDING, BUT NISHINO-KUN IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE!
WHAT?!
I AGREE WITH HIM.
NOT YOU TOO, MOM!
STOP TRYING TO SHIFT THE BLAME ON SOMEONE ELSE!
BESIDES, HOW IN THE WORLD IS NISHINO-SAN AT FAULT HERE?!

WELL, WHENEVER NISHINO-KUN COMES TO VISIT OUR HOUSE, HE ONLY GOES INTO YUKIHIRO'S ROOM!
HE'S NEVER STEPPED FOOT IN YOUR ROOM, EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SUPPOSEDLY DATING!
THAT'S JUST THE WAY HE IS; IT CAN'T BE HELPED, OKAY?!
Okay
Okay...

Health Observations
For a number of the health casualties to labour in the infirmary
NO... YOU'RE WRONG...
AH...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO SPEAK BADLY OF HIM... HONESTLY...
SPECIFICALLY REFERRING TO HIS CHARACTER...
UGH!
BUT, HE'S INCOMPETENT, RIGHT?
Hey, Ringo!
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
HOW DO I EXPLAIN IT WITHOUT HURTING HIM?
TELLING HIM THAT HE'S INCOMPETENT?
I'M TALKING ABOUT MY PARENTS' MISUNDERSTANDING!
HMM?

AH,
KAGA-KU—
IT'S JUST A GREETING... IT'S JUST A GREETING...
BUT...
W-WAS IT THIS KIND OF ACTION THAT WAS MAKING NISHINO-SAN ANXIOUS?
SPEAK YOUR MIND—GIRLS' TALK
"How close will you let your boyfriend get to other girls?
Miss No.3, you're terrifying.
THE MOMENT THEY MAKE EYE CONTACT, IT'S CHEATING. I WON'T FORGIVE HIM, EVEN AFTER DEATH
HMM, IF HE WAVES TO CALL HER OVER AND HAVE A NICE, LONG CHAT, I'D FEEL A BIT..
A SIMPLE GREETING IS TOTALLY FINE!
HMM
EVEN GREETINGS
CAN MEAN SO MANY THINGS...

TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE...
BOW
HUH...?
WHISPER
HEY, DIDN'T SHE BOW TO KAGA JUST NOW?
GASP
DID YOU HAVE TO... REPEAT THE GRADE?
Was that okay?

キーン
コーン
AH.
HUH?
UM...
DID WE HAVE PLANS AFTER SCHOOL TODAY..?
HEY,
GOOD TIMING. I WAS ABOUT TO CALL YOU.
WHAT?
NISHINO-SAN?!

I JUST WANTED TO...
WALK YOU HOME.
AH, NO...
WE DIDN'T PLAN ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR...
YOU HAVE TO TELL HIM THAT, RIGHT?
MAI!
TAKE CARE OF IT ON THE WAY HOME!
OH, WERE YOU ABOUT TO HANG OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS?
NOPE! WE'RE GOOD!
N-NISHINO-SAN!
HE'S BECOMING MORE ASSERTIVE!
WHY, ALL OF A SUDDEN?!
Do I have to tell him?! (Quietly)
AH, YEAH...

IF I THINK ABOUT IT, HE DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO GREET MY PARENTS PROPERLY!
AS LONG AS MY FAMILY KNOWS AND HE GREETS THEM AGAIN, IT'LL BE LIKE THIS MISUNDERSTANDING NEVER HAPPENED, RIGHT?!
(Quietly)
NO, WELL, I GUESS THAT'S TRUE...
ALSO,
THIS IS ONE OF THE FEW TIMES WHERE HE'S TAKING THE INITIATIVE...
Blah Blah
I DON'T WANT TO RUIN IT...

IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HIM WITH ALL LIFE DRAINED FROM HIS EYES...
Drain...
THIS...

YOU LITTLE SHIT, DON'T YOU THINK THE WHOLE REASON FOR THIS IS BECAUSE YOU KEEP COMING TO MY ROOM?!

NO, YOU DON'T.
I DO!
HAVE A REASON...
FOR BEING UNABLE TO GO INTO HER ROOM...
NO...
I ALSO..
Eavesdropping again.

NO, IT'S MORE OF A "AFTER ALL THIS TIME?!" FEELING!
SHE'S GOING TO THINK I'M WEIRD!
I think it's fine.
INCOM—
"...
IS THERE ANY REASON OTHER THAN YOUR INCOMPETENCE?

Meet at her house!
Meeting
Friends
Dating
House
YOU KNOW, MOST COUPLES GET PAST CERTAIN STAGES IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP BEFORE GOING TO EACH OTHER'S HOUSES, RIGHT?
IN MY CASE, IT FEELS LIKE I SKIPPED AHEAD,
SO IT'S KINDA HARD TO ASK AT THIS POINT...
IT'S HARD TO ASK?
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE INCOMPETENT!
OH MY GOD—
SOUND REASONING!
I'M TELLING YOU, SHE THINKS YOU'RE INCOMPETENT, AS WELL.
YOU'RE WRONG!
I LIKE THAT PART OF HIM!
I LIKE THAT PART OF HIM, TOO!

!
...OKAY.
I'LL DO IT.
ゲヤッ!

NISHINO-SAN IS...
NI-
HE'S COMING TO MY ROOM!
I-I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE WALL BEING THIN!
AS LONG AS MY BROTHER DOESN'T MAKE A LOUD NOISE...
BUT,
I-IS HE REALLY COMING?

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BREATHE IN...
THUD
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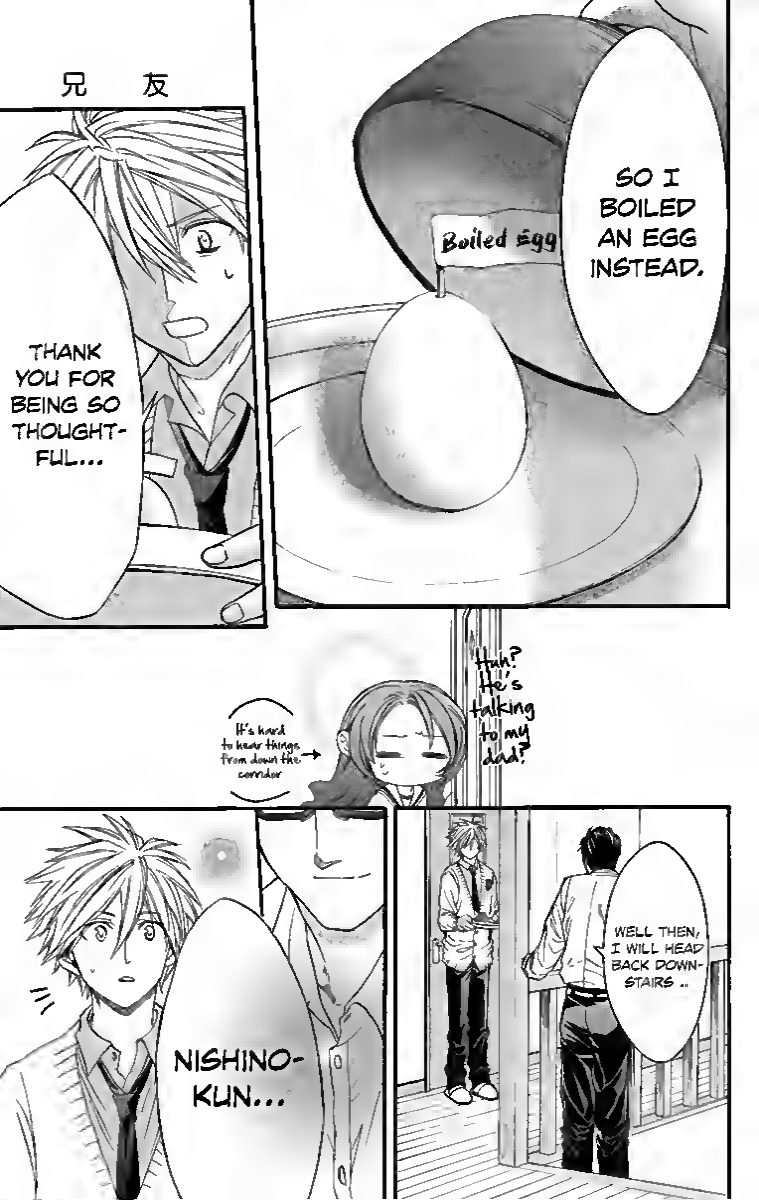
WEL-COME TO OUR HUMBLE HOME!
PARDON THE INTRU-SION!
ARE YOU...
GOING INTO...
MAY'S ROOM?
N-NO...
I WAS THINK-ING...
WHAT A NICE DOOR THIS IS...
IS THAT SO...
!
I'M THE ONE WHO CHOSE IT.

A DIA-MOND SHAPE
AND A SQUARE.
THEY MATCH.
I TRIED TO MAKE PUDDING,
BUT IT DIDN'T COME OUT QUITE RIGHT WHEN I STEAMED IT,
RIGHT, I BROUGHT YOU GUYS A SNACK.


兄　友
THANK YOU FOR BEING SO THOUGHT-FUL...
Boiled Egg
SO I BOILED AN EGG INSTEAD.
Huh? He's talking to my dad?
It's hard to hear things from down the corridor
WELL THEN, I WILL HEAD BACK DOWN-STAIRS ..
NISHINO-KUN...

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YUKI—
MY MISTAKE.
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF MAI.
キリッ
Boiled Egg

WHY THE HELL DID YOU COME BACK, YOU INCOMPETENT BASTARD!
IT BURNS!
B-BUT,
WOULDN'T I BOTHER HER BY SHOWING UP TO HER ROOM SO SUDDENLY?
WHY ARE YOU MAKING EXCUSES? LEAVE THE NEST ALREADY, YOU PRESERVED EGG BASTARD!
NO, THE SITUATION WAS SO BIZARRE THAT I JUST BLANKED OUT!
THE MISUNDER-STANDING WITH YOUR PARENTS HAS MORE OR LESS BEEN RESOLVED,
SO I'LL LEAVE IT THERE FOR TODAY...
AH, HE FAILED.

?
HUH...?
IT'S FINE THAT YOU FEEL THAT WAY, BUT WHAT ABOUT MAI?
SHE MIGHT NOT BE FEELING GREAT BECAUSE OF OUR PARENTS MISUNDERSTANDING, AND YOU BEING A PRESERVED EGG.
Sigh
DESPITE THAT, YOU'RE STILL NOT WILLING TO TAKE THAT EXTRA STEP, FLUFFING ABOUT ALL THE TIME ..
NO, IT'S NOT THAT SERIOUS ONII. YOU JUST WANT HIM OUT OF YOUR ROOM, DON'T YOU?
SHOW HER YOUR MANLY SIDE FOR ONCE.

YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'M GOING!
...!
IS HE
REALLY COMING
THIS TIME?

DROP
DROP
OH, MAI'S UNDER-WEAR.
PLEASE EXCUSE ME!
Go home already.

EXCUSE ME.
WHAT'S WRONG, KAGA? YOU WERE STILL HERE?
I WAS RESTING IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE FOR A WHILE.
I've come to return the key.
ANIMALS!!
THE USUAL, IS IT?

I WILL LEAVE THE KEY HERE.
PLEASE DO.
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
KAGA, YOU'RE NOT IN THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE, ARE YOU?
?
NO, I'M NOT.
YOU SEE,
YOUR CLASS HAS A STUDENT WHO WILL BE ON LEAVE FOR A WHILE DUE TO HEALTH REASONS.
SO, THERE'S A POSITION OPEN IN THE COMMITTEE.
COULD YOU FILL THAT POSITION FOR ME?

兄　友
THEY WERE IN THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.
WHAT……
I THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD CHANCE FOR YOU TO GIVE THANKS TO THE PEOPLE WORKING IN THE INFIRMARY, SINCE YOU END UP THERE OFTEN.
HOW ABOUT IT?
BUT...
THE HEALTH COMMI-TTEE
IS—